

SECRET/EXDIS

September 16, 1970

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

25X1

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

FOR: General Abrams

EYES ONLY FOR GENERAL ABRAMS

I know that you will appreciate the desirability of making the visit of Presidential Assistants George Shultz and John Ehrlichman a complete success, and hopefully will be able to give them the benefit of your personal appraisal of the situation. They will want to get a feel for the military outlook in Vietnam and for the ability of the RVNAF to take over; they will also want your appraisal of the effects of Cambodia on the enemy's capabilities and intentions. However, as I have told Ellsworth Bunker, the visit should be treated for what it is: a fact-finding trip with emphasis on Vietnam's long-range economic outlook. I am sure that we can count on your help in holding down to the greatest extent possible speculation that it is anything other than a routine matter.

Warm regards.

MORI/CDF
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